



Presentation

You use the present perfect with *how long*, *for* and *since* to talk about an action or a situation that started in the past and continues in the present.

He's worked here for over fifty-five years. (He started working here fifty-five years ago – he still works here.)

I haven't played tennis since I left school.

How long have you known Steve?

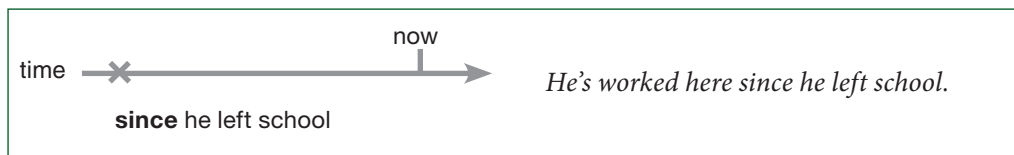
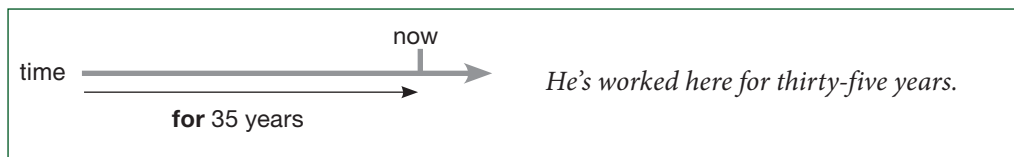
You do not use the present simple. (don't say *He works here for over fifty-five years.*)

for* and *since

You use *for* to talk about a **period of time**:

He's worked here for fifty-five years / a long time.

You use *since* with **the point in time when the action started**:



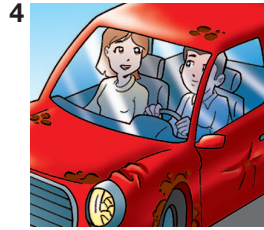
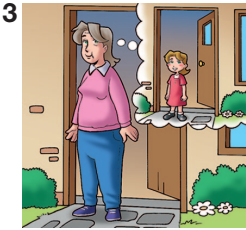
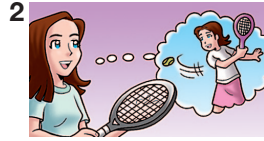
TIP You use the past simple in time expressions with *since*:

He's worked for his father since he left school.

I've made a lot of friends since I moved here.

I've known Jim since I was a child.

1 Look at the pictures and write sentences using the present perfect of the verbs in brackets and time expressions with *for* or *since*.



- 1 He (be) here
..... fifteen years.
- 2 She (not play) tennis
..... four years.
- 3 I (live) here
..... child.
- 4 They (have) the same car
..... a very long time.
- 5 They (know) each other
..... at university.
- 6 We (not see) John
..... weeks and weeks.

2 Correct the mistake in each sentence.

- 1 I haven't heard from Tom ~~for~~ the day of your birthday party. since
- 2 We work really hard on this project for the last six months.
- 3 Dave hasn't been very happy since the last few days. Has anything happened between you two?
.....
- 4 They're living in the same house for as long as I can remember.
- 5 She's had a bad back for the baby was born.
- 6 I've always been interested in music, ever since I've been a small child.
- 7 He doesn't speak to his mother since he left home.
- 8 I've waited since a long time for this opportunity.

3 Complete the questions using *you* and the verbs in brackets and then answer them. Give two answers each time, one with *for* and one with *since*.

- 1 How long have you lived (live) in your present home?
For Since
- 2 How long (know) your best friend?
For Since
- 3 How long (study) English?
For Since
- 4 How long (have) this grammar book?
For Since